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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,009	02/27/2002	Alan Rubinstein	3COM-3720 .BCG.US.P	1061

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EXAMINER

JEAN GILLES, JUDE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/086,009

Applicant(s)

RUBINSTEIN ET AL.

Examiner

Jude J Jean-Gilles

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to communication filed on 02/27/02. Claimed Priority is granted from provisional application **60/277593** with a priority filing date: 03/20/01

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bhatia et al (Bhatia), U.S. Patent No. 6,028,848).

**Regarding claim 1**, Bhatia teaches a method for performing device address assigning functionality in intelligent hardware (*fig. 1, item 300; column 10, lines 10-30*), said method comprising:

receiving a network access request from an electronic device communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware (*column 4, lines 52-67; column 5, lines 1-10*);

transmitting a device address request to a network server communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware (*column 4, lines 52-67; column 5, lines 1-35*);

receiving a first device address from said network server communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware (*column 5, lines 10-35*); and

assigning a second device address to said electronic device communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware (*column 5, lines 10-67*).

**Regarding claim 2**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said intelligent hardware comprises:

a first interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent hardware to a network, said network comprising said network server (*fig. 1, item 305; column 10, lines 31-56*);

a second interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent hardware to a plurality of said electronic devices such that each said electronic device is communicatively coupled to said network (*fig. 1, items 340; column 10, lines 22-44*);

a processor coupled to said first interface and said second interface (*fig. 1, items 330; column 14, lines 15-67*); and

a device address retriever coupled to said processor (*column 17, lines 43-67; column 18, lines 1-10*).

**Regarding claim 3**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first device address and said second device address are an IP addresses (*column 12, lines 1-40*).

**Regarding claim 4**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said network server comprises a DHCP server (*column 17, lines 42-67' fig. 4B, item 408*).

**Regarding claim 5**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first device address is the same as said second device address (*column 12, lines 1-40*).

**Regarding claim 6**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first device address is a global device address (*column 5, lines 15-60; note that the Public Address of the workstation is the global address of the device*).

**Regarding claim 7**, Bhatia teaches a method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second device address is a private device address (*column 5, lines 15-60; note that the Private Address of the workstation is the private address of the device*).

**Regarding claim 8**, Bhatia teaches a method for performing device address assigning functionality in intelligent hardware (*fig. 1, item 300; column 10, lines 10-30*), said method comprising:

receiving a network access request from an electronic device communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware, said intelligent hardware having a first device address (*column 4, lines 52-67; column 5, lines 1-5*);

assigning a second device address to said electronic device communicatively coupled to said intelligent hardware, such that said intelligent hardware eliminates the need for a separate device address assigning server (*column 5, lines 10-35; column 11, lines 64-67; column 12, lines 1-40*).

**Regarding claim 15**, Bhatia teaches an intelligent device for performing device address assigning functionality comprising:

a first interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent device to a network (*fig. 1, item 305; column 10, lines 31-56*);

a second interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent device to a plurality of electronic devices such that each said electronic device is

communicatively coupled to said network (*fig. 1, items 340; column 10, lines 22-44*);

a processor coupled to said first interface and said second interface (*fig. 1, items 330; column 14, lines 15-67*);

and

a device address retriever coupled to said processor for retrieving a first device address for said intelligent device from a network server of said network and for assigning a second device address to said electronic device (*column 17, lines 43-67; column 18, lines 1-44*).

**Regarding claim 21**, Bhatia teaches an intelligent device for performing device address assigning functionality, said intelligent device having a first device address, said intelligent device comprising :

a first interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent device to a network (*fig. 1, item 305; column 10, lines 31-56*);

a second interface for communicatively coupling said intelligent device to a plurality of electronic devices such that each said electronic device is

communicatively coupled to said network (*fig. 1, items 340; column 10, lines 22-44*);

a processor coupled to said first interface and said second interface (*fig. 1, items 330; column 14, lines 15-67*); and

a device address assignor coupled to said processor for assigning a second device address to said electronic device (*column 5, lines 10-67*).

**Regarding claim 9:** **Claim 9** lists all the same elements of **claim 2**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 2** applies equally as well to **claim 9**.

**Regarding claims 10, 16, and 22:** **Claims 10, 16, and 22** list all the same elements of **claim 3**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 3** applies equally as well to **claims 10, 16, and 22**.

**Regarding claims 11, 17, and 23:** **Claims 11, 17, and 23** list all the same elements of **claim 4**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 4** applies equally as well to **11, 17, and 23**.

**Regarding claims 12, 18, and 24:** **Claims 12, 18, and 24** list all the same elements of **claim 5**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 5** applies equally as well to **12, 18, and 24**.

**Regarding claims 13, 19, and 25:** **Claims 13, 19, and 25** list all the same elements of **claim 6**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 6** applies equally as well to **13, 19, and 25**.

**Regarding claims 14, 20, and 26:** **Claims 14, 20, and 26** list all the same elements of **claim 7**, but in a different form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to **claim 7** applies equally as well to **14, 20, and 26**.

**Conclusion**

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to Jude Jean-Gilles whose telephone number is (571) 272-3914. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and every other Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley, can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3719.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Jude Jean-Gilles

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2143

JJG

April 2, 2005



William C. Vaughan  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2143  
William C. Vaughan, Jr.